## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 CU-02 EB-08 /068 W

-----041228Z 021169 /17

R 041138Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0971

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY MADRID

CONFIDENTIAL VIENNA 1717

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, SP, AU

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT SPAIN

1. AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WILLIBALD PAHR WILL MAKE OFFICIAL VISIT TO SPAIN MARCH 7-10, 1977. MFA OFFICIAL TOLD EMBOFF PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF VISIT IS TO INDICATE GOA CONFIDENCE IN DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT IN SPAIN AND TO HELP DEMOCRATIC FORCES THERE. SUBSTANTIVE FOCUS WILL BE ON EXPANDING TRADITIONAL CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL TIES BUT GOA ALSO SEES GOOD PROSPECTS, IN LONG TERM, FOR EXPANDED ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SPAIN AND INTENDS TO USE VISIT TO "GET IN ON GROUND FLOOR" AS SPAIN MOVES TO EXPAND ECONOMIC RELATIONS IN EUROPE AND DEVELOP TIES WITH EC-9. OFFICIAL SAID THAT, ALONG WITH PAHR'S FEBRUARY VISIT TO SWITZERLAND AND PLANNED VISIT TO ITALY IN MAY, THIS VISIT TO ANOTHER WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRY WILL ALSO SERVE TO EMPHASIZE GOA INTEREST IN CONFIDENTIAL

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ITS WESTERN RELATIONS AND THUS COUNTER CRITICISM THAT FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER BIELKA HAD EXPANDED RELATIONS WITH EASTERN EUROPE WHILE NEGLECTING TRADITIONAL, CLOSE RELATIONS WITH DEMOCRATIC NEIGHBORS AND MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS IN WESTERN EUROPE.

2. MFA OFFICIAL NOTED THAT VISIT WOULD RETURN THAT

OF SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER TO AUSTRIA IN 1966 WHICH TOOK PLACE JUST AS RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES BEGAN TO COOL. IN 1975, HOWEVER, AGRICULTURE MINISTER WEISS MADE "TECHNICAL" VISIT TO MADRID AND BARCELONA, AND IN 1976 DEFENSE MINISTER LUETGENDORF REPRESENTED GOA AT CORONATION OF JUAN CARLOS. AFTER AUSTRIAN SOCIALIST PARTY IN FEBRUARY 1976 ESTABLISHED ITS "SOLIDARITY FUND" FOR SPANISH AND SOCIALIST PARTIES, UNOFFICIAL PARTY POLITICAL CONTACTS HAVE ALSO EXPANDED STEADILY.BUCHANAN

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: DEMOCRACY, MINISTERIAL VISITS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 04-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note:

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: AUSTRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT SPAIN TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, PGOV, SP, AU, (PAHR, WILLIBALD)

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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